

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
[TRULY AGREED TO AND FINALLY PASSED]
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 980

93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2006

4752L.02T

AN ACT

To repeal sections 335.212 and 335.233, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof three new sections relating to certain nursing and teaching student assistance programs.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 335.212 and 335.233, RSMo, are repealed and three
2 new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 173.232, 335.212,
3 and 335.233, to read as follows:

173.232. 1. **There is hereby established the "Urban Flight and
2 Rural Needs Scholarship Program", which shall be administered by the
3 department of elementary and secondary education. The program shall,
4 upon appropriation, provide scholarships, subject to the eligibility
5 criteria enumerated in this section, for eligible students who enter a
6 teacher education program and make a commitment to teach as a
7 condition of receiving such scholarship.**

8 2. **Subject to appropriation, each year the department of
9 elementary and secondary education shall make available to eligible
10 students up to one hundred four-year urban flight and rural needs
11 scholarships in an amount that encompasses one hundred percent of
12 the total cost of eligible students' tuition and fees at a four-year college
13 or university located in Missouri. Such amount shall be paid by funds
14 appropriated to the department.**

15 3. **As used in this section, the term "eligible student" shall mean
16 an individual who:**

17 (1) **Is a United States citizen and a Missouri resident who
18 attended a Missouri high school;**

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

19 (2) Enters and makes a commitment to pursue a teacher
20 education program approved by the department of elementary and
21 secondary education and offered by a four-year college or university
22 located in Missouri;

23 (3) Signs an agreement with the department of elementary and
24 secondary education in which the recipient agrees to teach in a
25 Missouri public school, the population of which includes a higher than
26 average "at-risk student population", as such term shall be defined by
27 the department of elementary and secondary education, for two years
28 for every one year the recipient received the urban flight and rural
29 needs scholarship;

30 (4) Has graduated from high school with a cumulative grade
31 point average of at least two and one-half on a four-point scale or
32 equivalent;

33 (5) Maintains a cumulative grade point average of at least two
34 and one-half on a four-point scale or equivalent.

35 4. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of
36 scholarships or revenues available, the department of elementary and
37 secondary education may consider the financial needs of the applicant.

38 5. The scholarships provided in this section shall be available to
39 otherwise eligible students who either:

40 (1) Are currently enrolled in a community college and make a
41 commitment to pursue a teacher education program approved by the
42 department of elementary and secondary education and offered by a
43 four-year college or university located in Missouri; or

44 (2) Have completed their baccalaureate degree and agree to
45 enter a teacher education program and make a commitment to pursue
46 a teacher education program approved by the department of
47 elementary and secondary education and offered by a four-year college
48 or university located in Missouri.

49 6. Every eligible student receiving scholarships under this
50 section shall teach in an elementary or secondary public school in
51 Missouri as provided in subdivision (3) of subsection 3 of this
52 section. The student shall teach for a period of two years for every one
53 year he or she received an urban flight and rural needs scholarship;
54 otherwise, the scholarship shall be treated as a loan to the eligible
55 student, and interest at the rate of nine and one-half percent per year
56 shall be charged on the unpaid balance of the amount received from the

57 date the eligible student ceases to teach until the amount received is
58 paid back to the state. In order to provide for the servicing of such
59 loans, the department of elementary and secondary education may sell
60 such loans to the higher education loan authority of the state of
61 Missouri created pursuant to sections 173.350 to 173.445. For each year
62 the student teaches, up to eight years, one-eighth of the amount
63 received pursuant to this section shall be applied against the total
64 amount received and shall not be subject to the repayment requirement
65 of this section; provided that twenty-five percent of such amount, not
66 subject to repayment, shall be repaid by the local school district to the
67 department. The department of elementary and secondary education
68 shall have the power to and shall defer interest and principal payments
69 under certain circumstances, which shall include, but need not be
70 limited to, the enrollment in a graduate program or service in any
71 branch of the armed forces of the United States.

72 7. There is hereby established in the state treasury a fund to be
73 known as the "Urban Flight and Rural Needs Scholarship Program
74 Fund", which shall consist of all moneys that may be appropriated to it
75 by the general assembly, and in addition may include any gifts,
76 contributions, grants, or bequests received from federal, state, private,
77 or other sources. The fund shall be administered by the department of
78 elementary and secondary education. Notwithstanding the provisions
79 of section 33.080, RSMo, to the contrary, moneys in the fund shall not
80 be transferred to the credit of the general revenue fund at the end of
81 the biennium. Interest and moneys earned on the fund shall be
82 credited to the fund. Moneys in the fund shall be used solely for the
83 purpose of awarding scholarships under the provisions of this section.

335.212. As used in sections 335.212 to 335.242, the following terms
2 mean:

- 3 (1) "Board", the Missouri state board of nursing;
- 4 (2) "Department", the Missouri department of health and senior services;
- 5 (3) "Director", director of the Missouri department of health and senior
6 services;
- 7 (4) "Eligible student", a resident who has [made application to be] **been**
8 **accepted as** a full-time student in a formal course of instruction leading to an
9 associate degree, a diploma, a bachelor of science, or a master of science in
10 nursing or leading to the completion of educational requirements for a licensed
11 practical nurse;

12 (5) "Participating school", an institution within this state which is
13 approved by the board for participation in the professional and practical nursing
14 student loan program established by sections 335.212 to 335.242, having a
15 nursing department and offering a course of instruction based on nursing theory
16 and clinical nursing experience;

17 (6) "Qualified applicant", an eligible student approved by the board for
18 participation in the professional and practical nursing student loan program
19 established by sections 335.212 to 335.242;

20 (7) "Qualified employment", employment on a full-time basis in Missouri
21 in a position requiring licensure as a licensed practical nurse or registered
22 professional nurse in any hospital as defined in section 197.020, RSMo, or public
23 or nonprofit agency, institution, or organization located in an area of need as
24 determined by the department of health and senior services. Any forgiveness of
25 such principal and interest for any qualified applicant engaged in qualified
26 employment on a less than full-time basis may be prorated to reflect the amounts
27 provided in this section;

28 (8) "Resident", any person who has lived in this state for one or more
29 years for any purpose other than the attending of an educational institution
30 located within this state.

335.233. The department shall establish schedules for repayment of the
2 principal and interest on any financial assistance made under the provisions of
3 sections 335.212 to 335.242. Interest at the rate of nine and one-half percent per
4 annum shall be charged on all financial assistance made under the provisions of
5 sections 335.212 to 335.242, but [twenty-five percent of] the interest and principal
6 of the total financial assistance granted to a qualified applicant at the time of the
7 successful completion of a nursing degree, diploma program or a practical nursing
8 program shall be forgiven [for each year of] **through** qualified employment.

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